

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Call to Order:** Chair Kerry White, on April 10, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 172 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Kerry White, Chair (R)  
Rep. Ed Lieser, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Gerald (Jerry) Bennett (R)  
Rep. Bob Brown (R)  
Rep. Zach Brown (D)  
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)  
Rep. Theresa Manzella (R)  
Rep. Dale Mortensen (R)  
Rep. Mark Noland (R)  
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)  
Rep. Ray L. Shaw (R)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)  
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Virginia Court (D)  
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)  
Rep. Keith Regier (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Joe Kolman, Legislative Branch  
Sherri Row, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 326, 4/1/2015; SB 20, 4/1/2015; SB 409, 4/1/2015

00:00:09 Chairman White

**HEARING ON SB 326**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:35 Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R), SD 32, opened the hearing on SB 326, Revise state land laws.

00:02:07 Rep. McConnell arrived

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:32 George Golie, Montana Wildlife Federation

00:07:48 Shawn Thomas, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)

00:08:51 Clayton Elliott, Montana Wilderness Association (MWA)

00:10:04 Jake Troyer, Montana Audubon

00:10:25 Rep. Court arrived

00:11:14 Sen. Vincent, SD 1

00:12:30 Rep. Regier arrived

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:13:12 Rep. Williams

00:13:56 Sen. Hinkle

00:14:42 Rep. Williams

00:15:04 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:15:38 Rep. Flynn

00:16:19 Sen. Hinkle

00:16:42 Rep. Flynn

00:17:06 Sen. Hinkle

00:17:38 Rep. Lieser

00:18:14 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:18:19 Rep. Lieser

00:18:36 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:19:26 Rep. Lieser

00:20:00 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:20:19 Rep. Bob Brown

00:20:48 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:21:27 Rep. Williams

00:22:47 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:23:22 Rep. Flynn

00:24:13 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:25:09 Rep. Flynn

00:25:37 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:26:05 Rep. Court

00:26:41 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

00:27:05 Rep. Court  
 00:27:24 Shawn Thomas, DNRC  
 00:27:35 Rep. Lieser  
 00:28:00 Shawn Thomas, DNRC  
 00:28:33 Chairman White  
 00:29:08 Shawn Thomas, DNRC  
 00:30:05 Chairman White  
 00:30:12 Shawn Thomas, DNRC  
 00:30:20 Chairman White  
 00:31:22 Shawn Thomas, DNRC

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:32:22 Sen. Hinkle

**HEARING ON SB 20**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:36:45 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 20, Reallocate metal mines license tax.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:40:13 Jerry Murphy, Office of the Governor  
 00:41:16 Jenny Chambers, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
 00:42:16 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)

**EXHIBIT(nah72a01)**

00:47:04 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association  
 00:50:57 Ronda Wiggers, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine  
 00:53:19 Mark Lambrecht, Treasure State Resource Industry Association  
 00:53:54 Mark Thompson, Montana Mining Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:54:45 Rep. Dunwell  
 00:54:52 Rep. Flynn  
 00:55:22 Sen. Vincent  
 00:55:55 Rep. Flynn  
 00:56:04 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 00:56:26 Rep. Flynn  
 00:57:02 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 00:57:21 Rep. Flynn  
 00:57:45 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 00:58:09 Rep. Dunwell  
 00:59:19 Jenny Chambers, DEQ

00:59:23 Rep. Dunwell  
 00:59:32 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 01:01:03 Rep. Dunwell  
 01:01:15 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 01:01:29 Rep. Dunwell  
 01:01:46 Sen. Vincent  
 01:02:01 Chairman White  
 01:02:35 Sen. Vincent  
 01:03:14 Chairman White  
 01:03:23 Sen. Vincent  
 01:03:48 Chairman White  
 01:04:04 Sen. Vincent  
 01:05:00 Chairman White  
 01:05:05 Sen. Vincent  
 01:06:00 Chairman White  
 01:06:04 Sen. Vincent  
 01:06:20 Rep. Flynn  
 01:06:47 Sen. Vincent  
 01:07:44 Rep. Flynn  
 01:08:28 Jenny Chambers, DEQ  
 01:10:12 Rep. Zach Brown  
 01:10:52 Sen. Vincent  
 01:12:26 Rep. Zach Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:14:17 Sen. Vincent

**HEARING ON SB 409**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:14:36 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 409, Revise metal mine laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:17:48 Tammy Johnson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)  
 01:23:38 Mark Thompson, Montana Mining Association (MMA)

**EXHIBIT(nah72a02)**

01:26:53 Dan Banghart, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine  
 01:30:01 Rep. Fitzpatrick arrived  
 01:32:35 Warren McCullough, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)  
 01:34:32 Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited  
 01:35:30 John Beaudry, Stillwater Mining Company  
 01:37:48 Glenn Oppel, Montana Chamber of Commerce  
 01:38:15 Mark Lambrecht, Treasure State Resource Industry Association  
 01:38:41 Harold Blattie, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:39:12 Derf Johnson, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:42:13	Rep. McConnell
01:42:47	Sen. Vincent
01:43:21	Rep. Lieser
01:44:07	Warren McCullough, DEQ
01:44:38	Rep. Dunwell
01:45:30	Mark Aagenes, Montana Trout Unlimited
01:46:15	Rep. Flynn
01:46:40	Sen. Vincent
01:50:14	Rep. Dunwell
01:50:42	Sen. Vincent
01:51:05	Rep. Dunwell
01:51:51	Derf Johnson, MEIC
01:53:03	Rep. Williams
01:55:07	Sen. Vincent
01:56:18	Rep. Williams
01:56:44	Sen. Vincent
01:57:37	Rep. Bob Brown
01:58:23	Tammy Johnson, MMA
02:00:25	Rep. Bob Brown
02:01:04	Dan Banghart, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine
02:01:12	Rep. Bob Brown
02:01:30	Dan Banghart, Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine
02:02:29	Rep. Olsen
02:03:47	Joe Kolman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
02:04:20	Rep. Olsen
02:04:50	Joe Kolman, LSD
02:04:59	Rep. Olsen
02:05:14	Chairman White
02:05:24	Rep. Olsen
02:05:35	Joe Kolman, LSD
02:05:39	Rep. Olsen
02:06:37	Sen. Vincent
02:06:55	Rep. Olsen
02:07:54	Sen. Vincent
02:08:31	Rep. Olsen
02:08:48	Sen. Vincent
02:09:42	Chairman White
02:10:39	Tammy Johnson, MMA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:10:43	Sen. Vincent
02:12:41	Chairman White
02:14:34	Rep. Bob Brown

**ADJOURNMENT**

02:14:50      Adjournment

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Sherri Row, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([nah72aad.pdf](#))